

Tri-State Amateur Radio Society - W90G
Application for renewal, May 1, 1997
ARRL Special Service Club
Programs and Activities

A. New ham development and training

TARS sponsors technician class courses and VET exams several times a year. In the coming months we have plans for another no-code Technician theory class, and a code class for those who wish to upgrade their licenses.

B. Public Relations

TARS provides continuing communications support for a number of community events, including: Thunder on the Ohio; the Evansville Freedom Festival Parade; the Great Pumpkin Metric; Drums on the Ohio; the Haunted Hayride at Wesselman Woods; and the Red Cross Soccer Tournament. In 1996 TARS ran a special event station in association with the Evansville Freedom Festival. Plans are underway for another special event station to commemorate TARS 50th year anniversary.

C. Emergency Communications

Every Wednesday evening at 8 PM central standard/central savings time on our 2 meter repeater 147.15, members of our club run the Tri-State Emergency Net, which is used to handle club business etc., and to be prepared for emergencies. When needed, weather nets are run on this same frequency.

W90G provides technical and operation support to the amateur radio station at the Evansville Vanderburgh County Emergency Management Agency and American Red Cross. TARS RACES members participated in the January EMA and RACES emergency drill.

D. Technical Advancement

Our club has appointed elmers, and presents programs at our monthly meetings addressing the technical aspects of ham radio and other related activities. For example, the April meeting program was presented by a local TV meteorologist who talked to us about HDTV, his station operations, and weather (severe weather in particular). The May meeting program will be on QRP. We also include equipment reviews and operating information in our monthly newsletter "SPARKS."

E. Operating activities

Fox hunts are a regular activity of TARS (two were run in 1996). Each year, our club participation in Field Day is a big and long anticipated event. W90G won in its category in 1996. Plans are underway for 1997 Field Day. We plan to be the club to beat, and are eager to see who wins the clubs internal contest between our small handful of CW pros, and everybody else on SSB.

For additional operating activities, see categories B and C.

F. Miscellaneous activities

The club and members provide monetary, technical, and equipment support to a ham/nurse/missionary stationed in Haiti. She studied and tested for her license through the club, and obtained a tower, computer and radio equipment through the member's generous support. Several members contact Etta (KB9LXQ/HH4) on a regular basis, supplying her with news from home.

Every January meeting is the TARS auction, when members have the opportunity to sell unwanted electronics related goods, obtain "new" used items, and support the club through the donations of these items. Fun is had by all.

Twice a year, TARS club meetings are potluck cookouts. Turnout is high, and everyone enjoys the good eats, and the opportunities to get together with other hams and find out what everyone is doing.